

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Recommendation L

1. We do not concur in this recommendation.
2. We believe that at the Okinawa and Mediterranean Bureaus where the foreign national monitor staffs are large and varied in language capabilities and coverage assignments, a Chief Monitor is necessary to exercise day to day supervision of monitor production, initiative in developing new coverage, thoroughness, accuracy and style. The Chief Editor could not give adequate supervision to the monitors at these two bureaus and at the same time supervise the editors; review the file; follow up on targets and requirements; perform and/or supervise special selections, roundups and coverage assignments; and be responsible for subsidiary services such as the library, cruising monitors, etc. The position of Chief Monitor is a difficult one to fill and no brief is held for the persons presently filling these jobs. Ideally, the Chief Monitor should be proficient in all the languages monitored at the Bureau, should have an extensive editorial background, should have a working knowledge of radio tuning and the use of other electronic equipment used by monitors. Such a man is difficult to find and it would require years to train an individual for all of these kinds of work. As a compromise, an effort has been made to provide a man with some editorial experience, some monitoring experience, initiative and judgment.
3. The efficacy of this compromise is apparent in the growth of monitoring capabilities at the Mediterranean Bureau over the last three years. A former Spanish monitor who later became an editor was detailed as Chief Monitor and in that assignment he initiated a training program in Soviet regional languages, specifically the Turkic dialects. In addition, he was very successful in recruiting monitors since he was able to recognize talents which could be developed and shortcomings which probably could not have been overcome and which an inexperienced individual might not have recognized.
4. We believe that the position of Chief Monitor should be retained and that the Chief Monitor should report to the Chief Editor.